article on "കൊച്ചി രാജ്യത്തേക്കുള്ള ബോമ്പായി ഉപ്പ്" published on page 7 of Gomathi, dated 17th Mithunam 1110 ;

(2) are the statements in the article true ; if so, who is the contractor who is given contract for the supply of Tuticorin salt ; what is the contracted price ;

(3) was any tender called for this supply ;

(4) what is the contract price for the supply of Bombay salt; who is the contractor; was any tender called for prior to the grant of the contract ;

(5) which salt is better, Bombay or Tuticorin ;

(6) was any chemical analysis made of the two varieties ; if so when and what was the result?

Mr. M. P. Cherian:—(1) Yes. (2) and (3) The contract for the supply of 2,50,000 mds. of Bombay salt during each of the years 1111 and 1112 has been given to Messrs. Mahomed Ibrahim Mahomed Jaffer and Co., Bombay. No contract has been given yet for the supply of Tuticorin salt. It is, however, proposed to import 50,000 mds. of Tuticorin salt as a trial for which tenders are being called for.

(4) The contract price for the supply of Bombay salt is Rs. 53—4—0 per 100 mds. of *jad* and Rs. 52—4—0 per 100 mds. of *barras*. The contract has been given to Messrs. Mahomed Ibrahim Mahomed Jaffer and Co. Bombay, after inviting tenders

(5) Some of the samples of Tuticorin salt received appeared to be as good as Bombay salt.

(6) No.

Mr. T. S. Balarama Ayyar—Sir, on a point of information Is the price given here Rs. 53-4-0 and Rs. 52-4-0 F. O. B. Bombay or C. I. B. Cochin?

Mr. M. P. Cherian:—The price is paid for the salt supplied at Malipuram.

Lands auctioned for arrears of land revenue.

293. Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen:—Will the Government be pleased to state the number of land owners whose lands were auctioned for arrears of land revenue in 1108, 1109 and 1110 ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon:—

Year.	Number of land owners.
1108	90
1109	184
1110	232

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Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen:—Is it not a progressive increase in the number?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon:—The numbers show a progressive increase.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—Will the Hon'ble Member take the earliest opportunity to expedite action on the cut motion bearing on the same subject matter that was carried by this House on the date when this demand was taken up?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon:—The result of the voting will be placed before the Government and action on the cut motion will be taken by the Government. Government already made their position clear. The result of the voting is before the Government.

Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen:—Will the Government be pleased to take any action on the information supplied by the Government? There is a progressive increase. On the progressive increase alone whether any action can be taken? Agriculturists are very much afflicted.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon:—It is due to a variety of cases. For some causes action has been taken.

294. Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon:— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the number of instances when land has been proclaimed for sale by Sirkar for default of revenue in the year 1105 to 1110; and

(b) the number of instances where sale has taken place in the above?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon:—

(a)	1105	....	390
	1106	....	448
	1107	....	486
	1108	....	596
	1109	....	847
	1110	....	1,023
(b)	1105	....	44
	1106	....	33
	1107	....	80
	1108	....	90
	1109	....	184
	1110	....	232

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